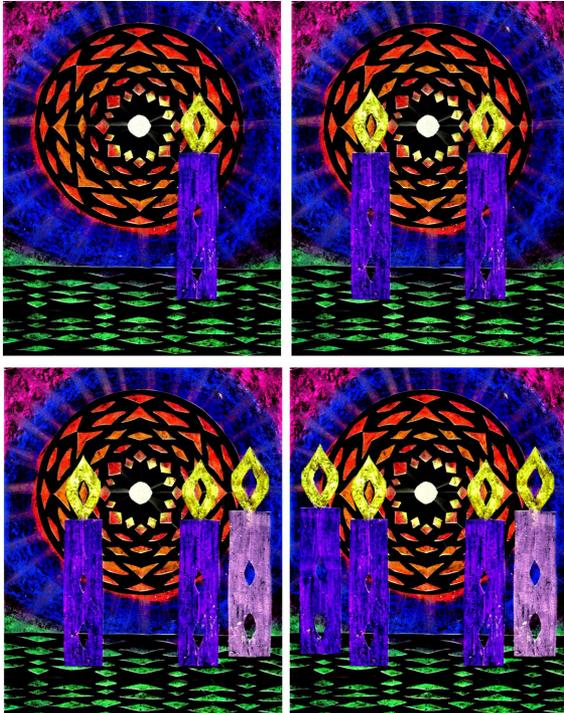




The Comfort and Call of Advent

An Advent Candle Liturgy



This liturgy was written for the four Sundays of Advent with the final part being used on Christmas Day. This Advent, Immanuel invites you to walk the path during the week with groups or at home. The candles to be lit can be placed around a traditional wreath of greenery or used creatively in some other arrangement. Traditionally, three candles are purple, a pink one for joy marks the third or fourth week and a white one is used on Christmas Day.

You are invited to use this liturgy throughout each week in any way you find helpful. We hope this is an opportunity to receive the comfort and call of Advent together. Choose one of the suggestions below, try a few different ones or think of your own ways to use this liturgy.

Some ideas are:

- Use all of this or a part of the liturgy once a week or as many times as you'd like during the week in the evening, as time permits at home.
- Invite friends or extended family to join you in person or through zoom for the lighting of the Advent candles.
- Use by yourself as a way of drawing closer to God.
- If you are a member of a bible study or small group, use the liturgy to open your bible study time together.
- Bring a simple advent candle to work and ask a few coworkers to join you at lunch time.
- Set time aside in the morning before you start your day to use this liturgy.

Advent Candle Liturgy Week 1



The Advent Carol

(can be sung to the tune of "The Holly and Ivy" or read aloud)

Within the deepest darkness
a glowing light is lit.

The darkness cannot put it out
or do away with it.

The Advent Path

This is the path that God marked,
who said at the beginning, 'Let there be light.'

And there was light;
and God saw that the light was good.

For people walking in darkness
a great light dawns.

The true light, which lightens everyone,
is coming into the world.

The light shines in darkness,
the light that the darkness cannot put out.

Today, the first week of Advent,
we light one candle.

One purple candle is lit.

This is the path that God marked
with light that shines in darkness.

Advent Candle Liturgy Week 2



The Advent Carol

(can be sung to the tune of "The Holly and Ivy" or read aloud)

Within the deepest darkness
a glowing light is lit.
The darkness cannot put it out
or do away with it.

The prophets said Messiah
would come to set us free,
to rule the world with life and justice:
the Prince of Peace is He.

The Advent Path

This is the path that the prophets marked
who heard the voice of the Lord, 'whom shall I send?',
and responded, 'Here am I, send me!'

They declared that the Lord required His people
to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with Him.

One prophet said that a young woman would conceive,
give birth to a son, and name him 'Emmanuel',
God with us!

that One would come who would preach good news
to the poor
and bind up the broken-hearted,

and rejoiced, 'A Child is born to us, a Son is given to us!
HE will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Prince of Peace.'

Today, the second week of Advent, we light two candles.

Two purple candles are lit.

This is the path the prophets marked,
who promised someone to preach the good news.

This is the path that God marked
with light that shines in the darkness.

Advent Candle Liturgy Week 3



The Advent Carol

(can be sung to the tune of "The Holly and Ivy" or read aloud)

Within the deepest darkness
a glowing light is lit.

The darkness cannot put it out
or do away with it.

The prophets said Messiah
would come to set us free,
to rule the world with life and justice:
the Prince of Peace is He.

Wild desert John Baptist,
shouted, 'Prepare the way!
Level out the hills! Fill the potholes in!
Make way for God today!'

The Advent Path

This is the path that John marked,
whose voice called in the the desert,
'Prepare the way for the Lord',

who cried, 'Repent for the kingdom of God is near!'
and baptised in the River Jordan many who confessed
their sins,

and who pointed out Jesus,
'Behold, the Lamb of God!'

Today, the third week of Advent,
we light three candles

Three of the coloured candles are lit.

This is the path that John marked,
'The Kingdom of God is near.'

This is the path the prophets marked,
who promised someone to preach the good news.

This is the path that God marked
with light that shines in the darkness.

Advent Candle Liturgy Week 4



The Advent Carol

(can be sung to the tune of "The Holly and Ivy" or read aloud)

Within the deepest darkness
a glowing light is lit.

The darkness cannot put it out
or do away with it.

The prophets said Messiah
would come to set us free,
to rule the world with life and justice:
the Prince of Peace is He.

Wild desert John Baptiser,
shouted , 'Prepare the way!
Level out the hills! Fill the potholes in!
Make way for God today!'

The angel came to Mary
who answered, 'Let it be,
I am the servant of the Lord
now His mother I will be.'

The Advent Path

This is the path that Mary marked,
to whom Gabriel said, 'You will give birth to a Son,
and will call Him Jesus.'

Mary replied, 'I am the Lord's servant,
let it happen as you have said.'

And she she rejoiced in her calling,
'My heart is overflowing with praise of my Lord,
my soul is full of joy in God my Saviour.'

Today, the fourth week of Advent,
we light four candles

Four outer candles are lit.

This is the path that Mary marked,
'I am the Lord's servant,
let it happen as you have said.'

This is the path that John marked,
'The Kingdom of God is near.'

This is the path the prophets marked,
who promised someone to preach the good news.

This is the path that God marked
with light that shines in the darkness.

Advent Candle Liturgy Christmas Day



The Advent Carol

(can be sung to the tune of "The Holly and Ivy" or read aloud)

Within the deepest darkness
a glowing light is lit.
The darkness cannot put it out
or do away with it.

The prophets said Messiah
would come to set us free,
to rule the world with life and justice:
the Prince of Peace is He.

Wild desert John Baptiser,
shouted, 'Prepare the way!
Level out the hills! Fill the potholes in!
Make way for God today!'

The angel came to Mary
who answered, 'Let it be,
I am the servant of the Lord
now His mother I will be.'

A baby in a stable
brings joy to all the earth
He comes, our Lord Emmanuel,
and we celebrate His birth.

The Advent Path

This is the path that Jesus marked,
cradled in Mary's womb from Nazareth
to Bethlehem on Caesar's command

turned away from the inn that had no room
to be born in a manger where animals fed,

greeted by shepherds from nearby fields
and magi from distant lands.

Today, now that Christmas is come, we light five candles.

We have marked out the Advent path with candle flames,
and today we celebrate Jesus' birth by lighting four
of the Advent candles,
and the Christmas candle in the centre.

All five candles are lit.

This is the path that God marked
with light that shines in the darkness.

This is the path the prophets marked,
who promised someone to preach the good news.

This is the path that John marked,
'The Kingdom of God is near.'

This is the path that Mary marked,
'I am the Lord's servant,
let it happen as you have said.'

This is the path that Jesus marks,
who comes to our world to show us God's way
and lead us on the path of truth and life.



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